Justices' Conference, held on 18th and 19th September, 1992 discussed the various issues and passed the resolutions, *inter-alia,* relating to expenditure on administration of justice under plan, delegation of more financial powers to Chief Justices of High Courts and improvement in Court Management.

(c) and (d) The Conference had not passed any resolution for the amendments of the Statutes. However, the various statutes are being reviewed by the Government, from time to time, so as to remove the redundant laws or to make them more meaningful with the passage of time.

Review of voters, list in North East States

3740. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government propose to review voters lists in Meghalaya, Tripura and Nagaland before assembly elections are held in those States; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): The Election Commission has ordered intensive revision of electoral rolls for the entire country except the State of Jammu and Kashmir with reference to 1.1.1993 as the qualifying date. The schedule for revision of electoral rolls for Meghalaya, Tripura and Nagaland is expected to be completed on 4.1.1993 and the new rolls are proposed to be used for the forthcoming elections.

Use of Hindi in the Supreme Court/ High Courts

3741. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the First President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, had, in a letter addressed to the then Chief Justice of India, impressed upon him the need to conduct the Business in the Indian Courts in Hindi; and

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made in this direction, indicating the number of judgements and orders passed, if any, by the Supreme Court and the different High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) According to information received from the Registry of Supreme Court of India, no such letter is available in the Registry and it is also not known whether such a letter was written by the first President to then Chief Justice of India.

(b) Article 348(1) of the Constitution provides that all proceedings of the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in the English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides. Under Article 348(2) the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President authorise the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purposes of the State in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State provided that decrees, judgement or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English. Under Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official Language of a State in addition to the English

language may be authorised with the consent of the President of India by the Governor of the State for the purposes of judgement etc. made by the High Court of that State. So far the Governors of four States namely, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorised the use of Hindi in addition to the English language in the proceedings as well as the judgements, decrees etc. of the High Courts in their States.

The information about the number of judgements delivered in Hindi is not readily available with the Government.

Backward class judges in High Court

3742. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Criminal Appeals and Revisions which are ten year and five year old pending in the High Courts of Madras, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(b) what is the main reason behind the long pendency of criminal appeals and revisions in High Courts in general; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the provision to dispose off criminal cases two months is a dead letter in the Criminal Procedure Code which is not followed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The available information as on 30.6.92 is as follows:

	Criminal Appeals		Criminal Revisions	
	Over 5 Yrs.	Over 10 yrs.	Over 5 yrs.	Over 10 yrs.
Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Karnataka (As on 30.6.91)	20	Nil	3	Nil
Kerala	2	Nil	2	Nil
Madras	1483	8	542	1

(b) The pendency of cases is due to several complex factors including institution of more cases in the High Courts.

(c) There is no such provision in the Criminal Procedure Code to dispose off the Criminal cases within two months of filing.

Appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts

3743. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of Judges/ Chief Justices appointed or transferred from one High Court to another so far during 1992 and by when the remaining vacancies in the High Courts and Supreme Court are likely to be filled up;

(b) the reasons for which these Judges